

# IN LETTERS OF GOLD

## "Old Confeds" Indite McKinley's Sentiments on Parchment.

## "REBEL" BADGE ON HIS LAPEL

Stirring Scenes at Macon and Milledgeville. Executive is Decorated with Colors He Fought Against and Saluted by Confederate Flag.

(By Telegraph.)

MILLEDGEVILLE, GA., Dec. 19.—The Presidential train stopped here, the former capital of Georgia, on its way to Augusta. An intensely enthusiastic crowd was at the depot and salutes were fired by the local military. President McKinley addressed the crowd from the rear platform of the train, saying:

"It is to me a very great pleasure to greet the citizens of Milledgeville, the old capital of the State of Georgia. In my journey through your State I have been received with a real warmth of welcome and I assure you that it is appreciated from the depth of my heart. I am glad to know that once more this country, North and South, all the people of all sections are animated by one purpose, one aim, one hope for a common destiny under the dear old banner of the free and nothing gives me more satisfaction than to feel that as the President called by the suffrage of the people, I am permitted to premeditatedly to a nation rich with glorious memories of glorious deeds, now united in an unbroken and never to be broken Union. I have great pleasure in presenting to you General Wheeler."

### GEN. WHEELER'S REMARKS.

General Wheeler was cordially cheered and spoke as follows:

"My Fellow Citizens: It seems hardly proper, after this beautiful address from the President to the United States, for me to detain you for one moment with any words of mine. I get great pleasure which I cannot express to have to have the privilege, by invitation of the President, to visit the South with him. I was so glad that the President accepted the earnest invitations from the various citizens of the South to come among his people, to see them face to face, to see the wonderful development they are making, how they are bringing their resources to the front and how they are developing their hidden resources in such a way as to add very much to the wealth of our nation. I am glad the President has brought with him his cabinet. I am glad he has brought with him the distinguished commander of the American forces in Cuba, General Shafter." (Wild Applause.)

General Shafter was warmly greeted and cheered.

### THE PARTY REACHES MACON.

MACON, GA., Dec. 19.—The President and his party reached Macon promptly on time and was received by the large crowd which has ever gathered in Macon since the last visit of Jefferson Davis to the city. At the station was a reception consisting of a number of the most prominent citizens of this town, including United States Judge Emory Speer, Major J. F. Hanson, who is spoken of as a successor to Secretary of the Interior Bliss, United States Senator A. O. Bacon, and Representative Charles Bartlett, of this Congressional district.

Drawn up in front of the station was the Bibb county Association, 400 strong. As the President reached the old Confederates he was halted by Colonel Wiley who addressed him as follows:

### WELCOMED BY VETERANS.

Mr. President: As commander of the Bibb county Veterans Association and Bibb county camp, No. 484, we extend to you and your party a most generous, hearty and sincere welcome of all Confederate soldiers on account of the noble sentiment expressed by you in regard to our Confederate dead. I assure you that these old, maimed and infirm veterans who have met here to do honor today appreciate such words of love and kindness and uttered too, by the President of this great country and by one who was a member of the Union army in the sixties. I hope and pray, Mr. President, that God in His infinite mercy may so direct the future legislation of this country that the living Confederates will be remembered. This country and the stars and stripes belong as much to the Confederate veterans as it does to the Grand Army of the Republic. The South proved its loyalty to this grand old country when war was declared with Spain and now henceforth and forever she will be found ready to take up arms to defend our country and our flag.

### IN LETTERS OF GOLD.

"Mr. President, in behalf of these noble and brave Confederate soldiers of Bibb county, Ga., I present to you this sentiment engrossed thereon in letters of gold, the beautiful sentiment expressed by you in our capital city in regard to our honored dead."

As the President was about to proceed Dr. Roland B. Hall, another veteran, addressed him as follows:

"Mr. President: In behalf of our noble dead and as Confederate veterans we are here to manifest our appreciation of the noble sentiment you have recently uttered. Do us the honor, sir, to accept and wear this badge of a Confederate veteran's camp which should endear you to the hearts of every Confederate."

"I do not know that it will be proper," said the President.

"But you must," said Dr. Hall, and without further ceremony the President marched ahead with Judge Speer.

### THE PRESIDENT'S BADGE.

The sight of a Confederate badge on the President's coat as he passed through the veterans called forth long cheering, which continued as long as he was in sight. The President wore the badge during his stay in Macon. One of General Wheeler's old cavalrymen also pinned a badge to the lapel of his major general's coat and the doughty little warrior proudly wore it away with him when he left the city.

The Presidential party was driven in carriages to the stand where he was to review the troops of General Bates'

# MILLION DOLLAR FIRE

## Big Blaze in the Heart of Indiana City.

## SHOP GIRLS LEAP FOR LIFE

Chicago Drummer's Act of Heroism Dashes Through Flame and Smoke and Effects the Rescue of Panic Stricken Women.

(By Telegraph.)

TERRE HAUTE, IND., Dec. 19.—The worst fire in the history of Terre Haute broke out tonight, causing a loss of \$1,000,000.

The blaze started in the big show windows of the Havens and Geddes Company, wholesale and retail dealers in dry goods and notions. The cause is not definitely known, but it is supposed that a light electric wire set fire to the cotton with which the window was decorated, and before the blaze could be extinguished the fire spread to the decorations of evergreens in the store and the building was wrapped in flames in an incredibly short space of time.

### HEAVY LOSSES.

Several large firms are heavy losers and a number of small concerns were totally annihilated in the fall of the rear wall of the Havens and Geddes wholesale house.

The fire started at 5:30 o'clock, when half the employees of the establishment were at their homes for supper.

There is a force of 300 or more in the retail department of the establishment, and had the entire force been present the loss of life would have been frightful. As it is, Kate Malone, a clerk in the notions department, is lying at the point of death.

### JUMP PROBABLY FATAL.

She sprang from a window in the second story and sustained injuries from which she will probably die. Miss Luella Ferguson, a clerk in the same department, jumped just before Miss Malone, but was caught by some men who were watching for her. She is internally injured, but will recover.

Louis Kramer, the trimmer, was in the show window when the fire started, and was frightfully burned about the head and arms. When rescued from the burning building he was insane from the pain and begged to be killed.

Firemen Austerloo, Walsh and Shay were badly injured in the falling in of the floor into the Albrecht building.

The fire department worked admirably, and there were many narrow escapes among the fire ladders. Several of them are now in a precarious condition from burns and from the effects of stifling smoke, but it is thought tonight all will recover.

At 11 o'clock the fire was still burning fiercely, but the firemen had it under control.

### HEROIC DRUMMER.

A heroic act on the part of a man named Peters, a traveling salesman from Chicago, called forth cheers from the crowd watching the flames. When the fire first started Peters was standing in the crowd and saw the Malone and Ferguson girls appear at the second story windows. The girls were panic-stricken and in momentary danger of going down with the floor. Peters sprang through the door with his coat over his head, and, dashing through the flames and smoke, reached the window at which the girls appeared, and, after talking with them, swung out from the ledge and dropped. His example was followed by the two girls.

### MORE VESSELS FOR CUBA.

Light Draft Gunboat to be Sent There to Preserve Peace.

A special from Washington to the New York Herald contains the following:

"Arrangements are being made by Acting Secretary Allen for the dispatch of more naval vessels of light draft to Cuban waters to aid the army in the coast cities in establishing and preserving peace and order."

"It was intended several months ago to assign four of the single turreted monitors to Cuba as port ships and they were fitted up for this purpose, but it was found they would be too hot for service in the South, and it is now proposed to assign small gunboats to the island. In addition three small converted yachts are being prepared for surveying duty, and they will be available for providing protection and quieting disorders."

"The Department has finally abandoned its purpose to form a Gulf squadron, and Cuba and Porto Rico will be continued in the North Atlantic station, under the command of Rear Admiral Sampson. It is expected that the battleship Texas will arrive at Havana very soon, and the Brooklyn will reach her destination tomorrow or Monday."

"To prevent the possible occurrence of another catastrophe like that which befell the Maine, instructions have been given by the Navy Department to naval commanders not to take coal under any conditions from Havana. Under these instructions the New York reported today her arrival at Key West. She will return to Havana after she has refilled her bunkers."

That there may be no interruption in the stay of war ships at Havana, Acting Secretary Allen has directed the coalers from the United States to Havana, and the war ships will coal from these vessels. The authorities feel confident it will thus be impossible for anyone to place a bomb in the coal. Two coalers are already on their way to the Cuban capital—the Arethusa and the Lebanon.

"It is pointed out that these coalers, armed with rapid firing guns, will be available for service against the city in case of necessity, and their crews would make an important addition to any landing party required to preserve order."

### WANTED.

Volunteers wanted to join the army of men now wearing our make of suits and overcoats. Woodward & Womble, 414-tf.

# ARGUE ON EXPANSION

## Senator Platt Holds Annexation a Sovereign Right.

## ATTACKS VEST RESOLUTION

May Be Necessary, the Senator Thinks, to Acquire Territory in Africa. Constitution Does Not Guarantee Suffrage. Hoar Replies.

(By Telegraph.)

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19.—The Senate had a busy day and there were several important speeches. Mr. Platt, of Connecticut, spoke against the Vest resolution, which declares that the United States has no power to acquire territory.

"I shall maintain," said Mr. Platt, "that the United States has shown a great capacity for government in all trying times and under many trying conditions, and that it is capable to meet any emergency that is likely to arise. I propose to confine myself to the question of the right of the power denied by the resolution. I shall contend that the United States is a nation and that as such it possesses every sovereign power not reserved by the Constitution to the States or to the people themselves; that the right to acquire territory is not reserved, and that, therefore, that right is an inherent right—a sovereign right, a right in which there is no limitation. I shall show, also, that in certain instances, this inherent sovereign right is to be inferred from specific clauses of the Constitution itself."

### QUOTES FROM OPINIONS.

Mr. Platt then launched into a constitutional argument, quoting extensively from authoritative sources of the question. In maintenance of his position of the right of the United States to acquire foreign territory, he quoted from the opinion of Justice Gray in the Chinese exclusion case. He declared that during the discussion of the annexation of the Hawaiian Islands the entire question of the government's right to acquire foreign territory was considered thoroughly and that the Senate had settled it safely and rightly.

"We did not annex the Hawaiian Islands as a State," said Mr. Platt, "or with any declaration that the territory should become a State. We took it by cession. Our title to the territory is perfect and complete and constitutional."

Mr. Platt maintained that our right to Florida did not rest alone upon the quit claim, but upon a broader and deeper claim. He held that the United States "have the right to acquire territory in all ways that are conceded to other sovereign nations of the world."

### TERRITORY IN AFRICA.

Further along Mr. Platt suggested that it might become necessary in the interests of commerce, or some other inquiry, to acquire territory in Africa. "Shall we be bound by the Constitution to organize a State from such acquired territory, and to admit its inhabitants to citizenship?"

"Suppose," he continued, "that the Senator from Alabama (Mr. Morgan) secures the passage of his bill for the construction of the Nicaraguan canal (and I pray that he may); and suppose, in this connection, it should be deemed necessary for the United States to acquire a strip of land along the route of the canal of 2,500,000 acres—I think that is the amount suggested—can we not take it? If we take it, what clause of the Constitution directly or indirectly says we must organize a State of the acquired territory or confer citizenship upon the people who inhabit it?"

### DECISION A DEAD LETTER.

Referring to Mr. Vest's reliance upon certain parts of the Dred Scott decision, Mr. Platt declared that in the light of recent years Chief Justice Taney's opinion became a "mere dead letter," and that it was too late, in these days, to resurrect the Dred Scott decision as a basis of constitutional action on the part of the United States.

Continuing, Mr. Platt contended that the doctrine he was presenting was not new, but it was the doctrine of the fathers and he quoted Governor Morris as advancing the theory that acquired territory might be governed as a province, but not as a State. The remark acquired to the possibility of the acquisition of Louisiana and Canada.

In response to a question from Mr. Allen, Mr. Platt said that he did not think there was any limitation to the power of the United States to acquire territory.

"As complete as the power of Russia, for instance, in such a matter?" asked Mr. Allen.

### FREE OF RESTRICTION.

"Yes; the right to acquire territory is an element of nationality. And I do not believe that there is any obligation to give to the people of acquired territory the right of self-government until such time as they are fit to exercise that right. If we believe that the people of a country acquired are not fitted for the government of themselves, it is our duty to give them the most liberal government they are capable of accomplishing, and to educate them up as best we may to the point where they will be capable of self-government. The Constitution does not confer the right of suffrage."

Mr. Platt said that he could not agree with those who contended that the acquisition of such territory as that embraced in Porto Rico and the Philippines is a menace to the existence of our republic. This mistake, he said, arises from the fact that Mr. Vest and those who agree with him assume that the Constitution guarantees the right of suffrage and the right of a citizen living in a certain territory to have it admitted as a State.

NO SUCH GUARANTEE.

This assumption was without foundation, as there was no such guarantee in the fundamental law. Though the fifteenth amendment prohibits abridgment of the right of suffrage, for reasons specified, it did not amount to prescribing the right to vote.

# BAILEY'S CHALLENGE

## Hurls the Lie in the Teeth of the Republicans.

## IT PASSES UNNOTICED

Texas Congressman's Ire Being Aroused by a Newspaper Report, He Denounces the Author, and Seeks to Learn His Identity.

(By Telegraph.)

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19.—This was suspension day in the House and several bills were passed, the most important of which was the bill appropriating \$350,000 for the Philadelphia exposition of 1899. The vote was exceedingly close. It had but two votes more than the necessary two-thirds.

Mr. Bailey, of Texas, introduced a resolution to investigate and report on the question as to whether the members of the House who accepted commissions in the army had forfeited their seats in the House.

"Last Friday my attention was called to the fact that the journal of the first day's proceedings shows that two members of the House who are understood to hold commissions in the army had answered to their names on the roll call and upon an inspection of it I find this statement to be correct."

### HOUSE RECORDS ERRED.

"As to one of the gentlemen, Mr. Campbell, of Illinois, I am perfectly certain that the House records made a mistake, because, in a conversation I had with him on the subject, he told me that after a full investigation, he had concluded that by accepting a commission in the army he had vacated his seat as a member of this House and that he did not intend to resume or to attempt to resume his duties as a member. The other case it will be more proper to speak on when the Committee on the Judiciary makes its report. It is apparent, however, to the House, as it will be to the country, when a member, a right to whose seat is doubtful, answers to his name on the roll, he asserts his right as a member."

### MR. BAILEY'S CHALLENGE.

"I have nothing further to say on that aspect at this time, but I desire to call the attention of the House to a very remarkable statement that appears in a paper in this city this morning." Mr. Bailey said the article implied that he had been conferring with the Republican leaders and pursuing his course at their instigation, and, said he, "it implies further that the reporter obtained that information from some Republican member of this House. For my part I do not believe that there is a gentleman on that side of the chamber so lost to all sense of truth as to make that statement; but if there be one, I do not intend that he shall escape and I therefore deliberately denounce that statement as an infamous lie and if any Republican made it he ought at least to have courage to stand up and say he made it. With that I ask a reference of the resolution."

### SILENCE THERE. NOTHING MORE.

No one answered Mr. Bailey and the resolution was referred without objection.

Mr. Dingley, from the committee on ways and means, offered the resolution for a holiday recess from Wednesday, December 21, to Wednesday, January 4, and it was adopted without division.

A bill was passed to authorize the distribution of the assets of the Freedmen's bank. Mr. Lacy (Rep.), Iowa, moved to pass under a suspension of the rules the bill to enlarge the scope of the Fish Commission to include game birds. The bill was passed.

The House at 2:45 P. M. adjourned.

### CITY NEWS IN BRIEF.

#### Newspapers and Pinned Paragraphs Prepared for Huddled Readers.

Edmond Kirby, who has been acting secretary to Major Calvin Dewitt at Old Point, has been transferred to Augusta, Ga., and will become the private secretary to Lieutenant Colonel A. C. Girard, chief surgeon, Second Army Corps. Mr. Kirby will leave today for his new home and in a few days will accompany his command to Cuba.

Deputy Sheriff A. B. Shackelford, of Lunenburg county, yesterday brought to Newport News the negro "Money" Jackson, who was arrested in that county at the request of Chief Harwood on a larceny charge.

The Edgemore Bridge Works, at Wilmington, Del., have received from the Newport News Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Company a contract to furnish and erect the steel work required for a railway viaduct 730 feet long, now to be erected at the shipyard. The steel work will weigh over 1,000,000 pounds.

Mr. Aaron Baum, of Boston, is visiting his uncle, Messrs. A. Kliskey and D. Reisfeld.

Great Sackem C. W. Adams, of Newport News, visited Wyoming Tribe, No. 43, I. O. R. M., last night. Several balalaikas, and their scalps and great chiefs made brief talks on the good of the order.

Mr. Charles M. Thalman, assistant manager of the Newport News branch of the Robert Porter Brewing Company, leaves today for Danville, where he will be wedded tomorrow evening at 8:30 o'clock to Miss Rosa Pascucci, a pretty and popular young lady of that city. The ceremony will take place at the residence of the bride's parents, No. 223 Union street. Miss Mamie Pascucci, sister of the bride, will act as maid of honor, and Mr. C. A. Gordon, also of Danville, as best man.

### CINCINNATI NOT DAMAGED.

(By Telegraph.)

SANTIAGO DE CUBA, Dec. 13.—After forty-eight hours of hard work, with the assistance of the United States collier Southern and the gunboat Mayflower, the United States cruiser Cincinnati, which on Saturday evening ran full speed upon a rock in Santiago harbor, is now in deep water. Apparently, she is not damaged.